

Amendments to the Title:

Please amend the title as follows:

~~METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ENCAPSULATING/DECAPSULATING DATA ON A~~
~~PER CHANNEL BASIS IN HARDWARE BUNDLING ATM AND POS DATA IN A SINGLE~~
OPTICAL CHANNEL

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) to US Provisional Application Serial No. 60/090,028, filed June 19, 1998, and is related to US Patent Application No. 09/237,128, filed January 25, 1999, and entitled "NETWORK PACKET FORWARDING LOOKUP WITH A REDUCED NUMBER OF MEMORY ACCESSES," U.S. Patent Application No. 09/336,090, filed June 18, 1999, and entitled "AN INTERCONNECT NETWORK FOR OPERATION WITHIN A COMMUNICATION NODE," US Patent Application No. 09/336,311, filed June 18, 1999, and entitled "A QUALITY OF SERVICE FACILITY IN A DEVICE FOR PERFORMING IP FORWARDING AND ATM SWITCHING," and US Patent Application No. 09/336,229, filed June 18, 1999, and entitled "DEVICE FOR PERFORMING IP FORWARDING AND ATM SWITCHING". The entire contents of each of ~~said application is hereby~~ the applications are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please delete the second, third, fourth, and fifth paragraphs on page 2.

Please insert the following new paragraphs after the subtitle "Summary of the Invention" on page 2:

One aspect of the invention is directed to a device that includes a demultiplexer configured to receive a channelized synchronous optical network (SONET) data stream and separate the channelized SONET data stream into constituent tributary data streams. The tributary data streams include a packet over SONET tributary data stream and an asynchronous transfer mode tributary data stream. The device further includes a line card coupled to the

demultiplexer and configured to provide the demultiplexer with the channelized SONET data stream.

Another device consistent with aspects of the invention includes a multiplexer configured to receive tributary data streams. The tributary data streams include a packet over synchronous optical network tributary data stream and an asynchronous transfer mode tributary data stream. The multiplexer combines the tributary data streams into a single channelized data stream. A line card is coupled to the multiplexer and receives the single channelized data stream.

Yet another aspect of the invention is directed to a method for transmitting information over a fiber optic cable. The method includes constructing a packet over synchronous optical network data stream, constructing an asynchronous transfer mode data stream, and combining the packet over synchronous optical network data stream and the asynchronous transfer mode data stream into a single channelized synchronous optical network (SONET) data stream. The method further includes transmitting the single SONET data stream.

Please delete the first, second, third, and fourth paragraphs on page 3.

Please replace the fourteenth paragraph on page 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 15 illustrates the logical ~~format~~. ~~Of format of~~ an AAL5 IDU.

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the depiction of the line card 59 shown in Figure 5 is considered to be merely illustrative and not limiting the present invention. Other line

card configurations may be used to in practice of the present invention. Moreover, the functionality provided by each of the ~~line card needs~~ line cards need not be implemented on a line card per se but rather may be implemented in a different fashion or by a different hardware configuration. In addition, the receive ASIC 70 and the transmit ASIC 64 need not be implemented as two separate ASICs but rather may be implemented as more ~~that~~ than two ASICS or as a single ASIC.